

New insights in the surgical treatment of chronic ischemic mitral regurgitation

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Propositions

New Insights in the *Surgical Treatment* of Chronic Ischemic Mitral Regurgitation

1. After reductive annuloplasty the remodeling of the left ventricle continues and it is mainly posterior. (*this thesis*)
2. Two tethering patterns can be distinguished in chronic mitral regurgitation: asymmetric and symmetric. The latter is related to a high percentage of failed surgical repair. (*this thesis*)
3. The localization of the myocardial infarction does not influence the symmetry of the tethering or the regurgitant jet direction. (*this thesis*)
4. A symmetric mitral insufficiency pattern might represent an advanced feature of the disease in which other areas adjacent to the infarcted zone are progressively involved. (*this thesis*)
5. The extent of the tethering of the anterior leaflet, its length and mobility, irrespective of left ventricular dimensions, volumes and function, are key points for a successful ischemic mitral valve repair. (*this thesis*)
6. "There is nothing like cardiac surgery to bring out a patient's true age." (*George E. Thibault*)
7. Mozart's music reduces the anxiety after cardiac operations.
8. "Consider ye the seed from which ye sprang ye were not made to live like unto brutes but for pursuit of virtue and of knowledge." (*Dante Alighieri, Divina Commedia, Inferno canto XXVI, 118-120*)
9. The better the scientist the more aware he will be of his limitations.
10. Friendships develop over food and wine.

Sandro Gelsomino

24 April 2009